

REMARKS

The claims have been amended to delete multiple dependencies.

The above amendments are submitted to place this application in proper U.S. format. Entry of the amendment and an early action on the merits are solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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## Appendix A

4. A method as claimed in Claim 2 [or 3], wherein said predetermined period of time lies in a range from approximately 50  $\mu$ s to approximately 75  $\mu$ s, and is preferably approximately 60  $\mu$ s.

5. A method of examining a record carrier (1) for the presence of spot defects (12; 13), the method comprising the following steps:

- a) examining the integrity of predetermined test tracks (2T) of the record carrier (1), preferably by means of a method as claimed in [any one of the preceding Claims] Claim 1;
- b) examining the integrity of tracks (2) adjacent the relevant test track (2T2; 2T3) each time that upon the examination a test track (2T2; 2T3) appears to be defective, in order to determine in this way the number (X) of tracks (2) affected by the same spot defect (12; 13);
- c) entering the relevant tracks (2) in a defect list each time that the number (X) thus determined in the step (b) is greater than a predetermined threshold value (M);
- d) storing the defect list in a memory (25).

7. A method as claimed in Claim 5 [or 6], wherein the defect list is recorded on the examined record carrier (1).

8. A method of recording information, particularly real time video, on a record carrier (1) of the type having a multitude of concentric substantially circular recording tracks (2), particularly a DVR disc, the method comprising the steps of:

- first providing, in an examination phase, a defect list of tracks affected by a comparatively large spot defect (13) by means of a method as claimed in [any one of the Claims 5-7] Claim 6;
- subsequently recording information on the disc in a recording phase while reference is made to said defect list, the recording tracks included in said defect list being skipped in the recording process.

9. A method of examining a record carrier (1) for the presence of spot defects (12; 13), comprising the following steps:

- a) examining the integrity of predetermined test tracks (2T) of the record carrier (1), preferably by means of a method as claimed in [any one of the Claims 1-4] Claim 1;
- b) entering the relevant tracks (2T2; 2T3) in a primary defect list each time that upon the examination of a test track (2T2; 2T3) it appears to be defective, and, optionally, entering tracks (2) situated in a suspect area (3T2; 3T3) at opposite sides of the relevant test track (2T2; 2T3) in an alarm list;
- c) storing the primary defect list and, if applicable, the alarm list in a memory (25).

11. A method of recording information, particularly real time video, on a record carrier (1) of the type having a multitude of concentric substantially circular recording tracks (2), particularly a DVR disc, the method comprising the steps of:

- first providing, in a primary examination phase, a primary defect list of test tracks (2T2; 2T3) having a defect and, optionally, an alarm list of tracks (2) situated in a suspect area (3T2; 3T3) at opposite sides of the relevant test tracks (2T2; 2T3), by means of a method as claimed in [any one of the Claims 9-10] Claim 10;
- subsequently recording information on the disc in a recording phase while reference is made to said primary defect list and said

optional alarm list, the recording tracks included in said primary defect list as well as the tracks (2) situated in a suspect area (3T2; 3T3) at opposite sides of the relevant test tracks (2T2; 2T3) being skipped in the recording process;

- subsequently examining the integrity of the tracks (2) in said suspect areas (3T2; 3T3) in a secondary examination phase, in order to determine in this way the number (X) of tracks (2) affected by the same spot defect (12; 13);
- entering the relevant tracks (2) in a secondary defect list each time that the number (X) thus determined is greater than a predetermined threshold value (M).

16. A method as claimed in Claim [14 or] 15, wherein said predetermined period of time lies in a range from approximately 50  $\mu$ s to approximately 75  $\mu$ s, and is preferably approximately 60  $\mu$ s.

17. A recording device (20) suitable for the recording of information, particularly real time video or audio, on a record carrier (1) of the type comprising a multitude of concentric substantially circular recording tracks (2), particularly an optical disc, which recording device comprises:

- a control unit (22);
- a write/read unit (21) adapted to aim a laser beam at a track (2) of a record carrier (1) under control of the control unit (22) and to receive laser light reflected from the disc (1), and further adapted to supply a tracking signal to the control unit (22), which tracking signal has been determined on the basis of the reflected laser light;

wherein the control unit (22) is adapted to carry out the method as claimed in [any one of the Claims 1-16] Claim 16.